

**To Whom It May Concern:**

I Francisco J. Figueroa owner of property located at 1101 NE 4 Street Hallandale Beach Fl., is the applicant for a variance that would allow a canopy structure to remain on my property. Back around the month of April 2008, I received a letter from code compliance Specialist Shelley Sarros informing of my violation of having constructed a canopy structure on my property, and that I needed to come in and apply for a bldg. permit. On May 14, 2008, I filled out and turned in an application for the canopy. A few days after turning in the application, I received a letter from the Bldg. Department that my request was rejected by the Structural Inspector. On May 15, 2008 Cris Fardelman rejected the application:

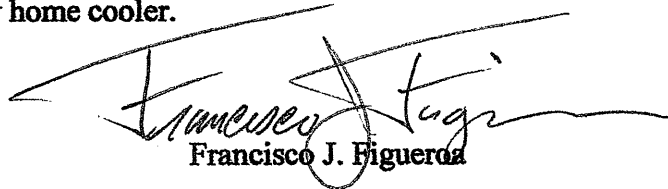
1. permit appl. form was incomplete
2. needed to show specific location of each canopy on site plan
3. show compliance with FBC 3105 including:
  - a. provide calculations, including criteria and code references, FBC 3105
  - b. provide details for footings, columns/posts frame attachments, etc.

Upon receiving the letter, I made the necessary corrections. First, I correctly filled out the permit application. Second, I provided a drawing that showed specific location of the canopy. Third, Fla. Code Compliance needed was prepared by John D. Buerosse, Structural Engineer. All documents were personally returned by me to the Bldg. Dept. About a month later, I received a letter from the Bldg. Dept. stating that Structural inspector Cris Fardelman rejected the canopy because ( 7-15-08 )

1. Need certifications for shop welder and field welders and special inspection form for qualified person to perform welding inspection in field and certify to city.

Also stated in this letter was a rejection by the Zoning Dept. by Mathew Dixon, No canopy allowed in set back area.

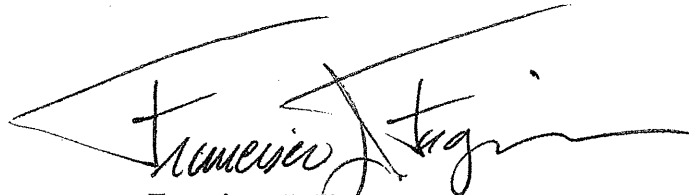
Upon receiving this last letter, I called the Bldg. Dept. and requested a meeting with Tony Gonzalez. It wasn't easy because of his busy schedule, but we finally met on July 28, 2008. I asked him why wasn't I told first of the set back problems, instead of the structural problems. Had I known at the time I would have applied for a Variance right away. He explained to me that sometimes in house procedures are done this way, that he realizes that it should have gone to zoning first. He stated to me that Structurally, the Canopy meets all Bldg. requirements. He suggested I talk to Cristie Dominguez in Zoning Dept. Sometimes timing isn't everything. Between vacation, hurricane warnings, etc., I finally met with Cristie. She is a true professional as is Mr. Gonzalez. She suggested to go with the variance. I understand why the City in the past has had issues with canopy structures. This canopy structure was professionally constructed. It sir-passes the FBC Wind and Structural requirements. Its looks compliment all the surrounding homes. Not only does it protect my vehicles from our daily changing weather, but also keeps my home cooler.



Francisco J. Figueroa

Section 32-965(b)

1. There are no special conditions or circumstances, affecting my property or building.
2. Yes, the need of a variance is caused by something I did on my property. I placed a structural canopy.
3. Yes, because currently my surrounding neighbors don't have a structural canopy on their property.
4. The Structural canopy protects my vehicles from the changing weather, keeps my home cooler, more energy efficient. It has increased the appearance of my neighborhood.
5. Structural canopy is 25 feet long by 22.feet 11 inches wide. I can make smaller by reducing the length, would then place it 5 feet from property line.
6. This structure canopy meet the Fl. Bldg. Code, which has been approved by Mr. Gonzalez from the Bldg. In the event of a hurricane, the structure can with stand winds of over 90 miles per hour. Also, by removing the canvas part of the structure, the steel tubing would also not be affected by such conditions. This structure has enhanced the appearance of the neighborhood as told to me by my neighbors.
7. The location of the canopy structure will not affect any of my neighbors homes because of its location on my property.



Francisco J. Figueroa